



REGION 3 WORKS COUNCIL

JUNE 20, 2016

4:00 – 5:30 P.M.

**JOINT OFFICES OF NE IN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP AND NEIN WORKS
200 E. MAIN STREET, SUITE 910, FORT WAYNE, IN 46802**

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: John Sampson, Wayne Barker, Dawn BonAmi, Patrick Buesching, Keith Davis, Kevin Keller, Grant Porter.

Call to Order

A quorum was declared. The meeting was called to order by John Sampson at 4:05 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the February 15, 2016 meeting were provided in the council packet. Dawn BonAmi moved to approve the minutes and Kevin Keller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Update on Regional Works Council's Activities

Caroline Foster, regional Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) coordinator, briefed the council on two state grant opportunities: a work and learn grant program and the second round of the Skill UP Indiana! grant funding. Regarding the latter, she said the state has received 41 letters of interest, including three from northeast Indiana. Discussion followed on the importance of identifying existing internship (or work and learn) programs in northeast Indiana.

Skill UP Indiana! Grant Overview and Endorsement of Work and Learn Grant Concept

Gary Gatman, executive vice president of strategic initiatives for Northeast Indiana Works, said the Skill UP proposal developed by Northeast Indiana Works focuses primarily on providing pre-apprenticeship programs in the skilled trades throughout the region. Among the key partners in the proposed initiative is the Northeast Indiana Building & Construction Trades Council. Another \$11 million statewide is available in the second round of Skill UP funding. Northeast Indiana received \$1.35 million in the first round for upgrading Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings. Gatman also detailed plans to seek up to \$40,000 through the state for a work and learn grant. The money would be used to contract with a consultant and evaluate current work and learn programs in the region; explore regional, state and national models; and develop an action plan, with input from community stakeholders, that identifies key strategies. Discussion followed. Wayne Barker moved to approve the concept and submission of the work and learn proposal. Grant Porter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Other

Jim Walmsley, director of the Kendallville-based Impact Institute, mentioned that Gatman had recently been given the Meredith Thompson Statewide Service to CTE Award. Keith Davis inquired about a recent report mentioning regional wage gains. Foster noted that the next meeting of the council had not been scheduled.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.